

[ IN THE CLAIMS

Amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) An assembly comprising:

17  
a torpedo having a bell mouth adapter with a peripheral  
shroud at an aft end of the torpedo;

Cont.  
a receptacle for storing an elongated article in a multiple-  
turn, multiple-layer configuration about a deployment  
axis in a storage volume;

a generally cylindrical connector extending from the  
receptacle and having a terminal front face and a  
lateral peripheral surface, there being a ball-locking  
ring assembly on said terminal front face and said  
ball-locking ring assembly is engaged with the bell  
mouth adapter of the torpedo;

a first elastomeric cushioning means mounted on the lateral  
peripheral surface of the connector; and

a second elastomeric cushioning means mounted on a front  
face of the first elastomeric cushioning means in outer

A7  
Concl.

axial relation to the ball-locking ring assembly and in  
opposed relation to the shroud on the torpedo.

---